

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

09/618,296

Examiner

David Q. Nguyen

Applicant(s)

COLLIER ET AL.

Art Unit

2681

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 05/31/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-5,7,9,11,13-16,18-19 and 39 (renumbered as 1-15, respectively).
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 18 July 2000 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)            |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment                    |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br>of Biological Material          | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance   |
|   | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____.   |

David Nguyen

### **DETAILED ACTION**

#### **EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.
2. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Brian Rosenbloom on 06/17/05.
3. The application has been amended as follows:  
Claims 40-57 have been canceled.

#### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

4. Claims 1-5,7,9,11,13-16,18-19 and 39 are allowed.
5. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:  
Regarding amended independent claim 1, the claim has been amended to overcome the prior arts. The closest prior arts, Endo et al. (US 6,172,576) and Martin et al. (US 5,686,864), either singularly or in combination, fail to anticipate or render obvious that a memory for storing information defining one or more sets of the trimming capacitances; and control apparatus coupled to the memory for causing a set of the trimming capacitances to be connected to the variable capacitance unit by the steps of: retrieving from the memory information defining a set of the trimming capacitances; connecting that set of the trimming capacitances to the variable capacitance unit; comparing the voltage at the variable capacitance input with a first preset voltage range; and if that voltage is outside the first preset voltage, determining based on the

Art Unit: 2681

voltage at the variable-capacitance inputs, an adjusted set of the trimming capacitances and storing in the memory information defining that adjusted set of the trimming capacitances, in combination with all other limitations in the claim(s) as defined by applicant..

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

### *Conclusion*

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to David Q. Nguyen whose telephone number is 571-272-7844.


The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30AM-5:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, JOSEPH H. FEILD can be reached on (571)272-4090. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

DN

David Nguyen

  
JOSEPH FEILD  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

Amendments to the Drawings

Applicants submit herewith an additional drawing.  
Applicants respectfully submit that the additional drawing adds no new matter to the application and respectfully request that the Examiner enter the additional drawing in the present application.

FIG.1

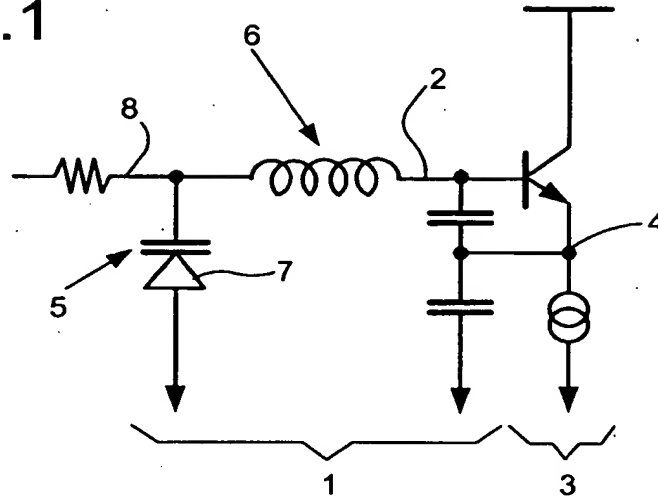
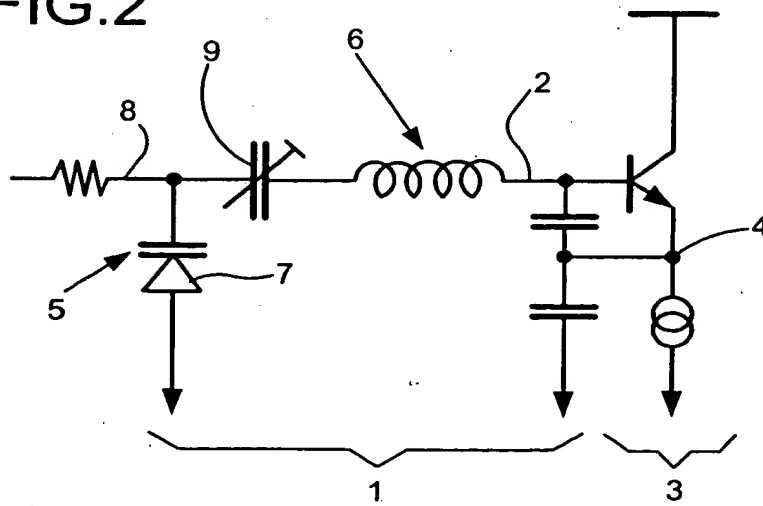


FIG.2



**FIG. 3**

FIG. 4 is a block diagram of a control system. It features a central block labeled 1,3. To the left, a block labeled 27 receives inputs from blocks 28 and 29. Block 27 has three output lines: a solid line labeled 19, a solid line labeled 20, and a dashed line labeled 21. Lines 19 and 20 enter the central block 1,3 from the left. Line 21 enters the central block 1,3 from the bottom. The central block 1,3 has a single output line that splits into two paths. One path goes to a block labeled 25, which then feeds into a block labeled 26. The other path goes to a block labeled 24. Block 26 has an output line labeled 23 that feeds into a block labeled 30. Block 30 has an output line labeled 8 that feeds back into the central block 1,3. A 'REFERENCE INPUT' is shown as an arrow pointing into block 26. The output of block 24 is a sine wave symbol.

Amendments to the Drawings

Applicants submit herewith an additional drawing.  
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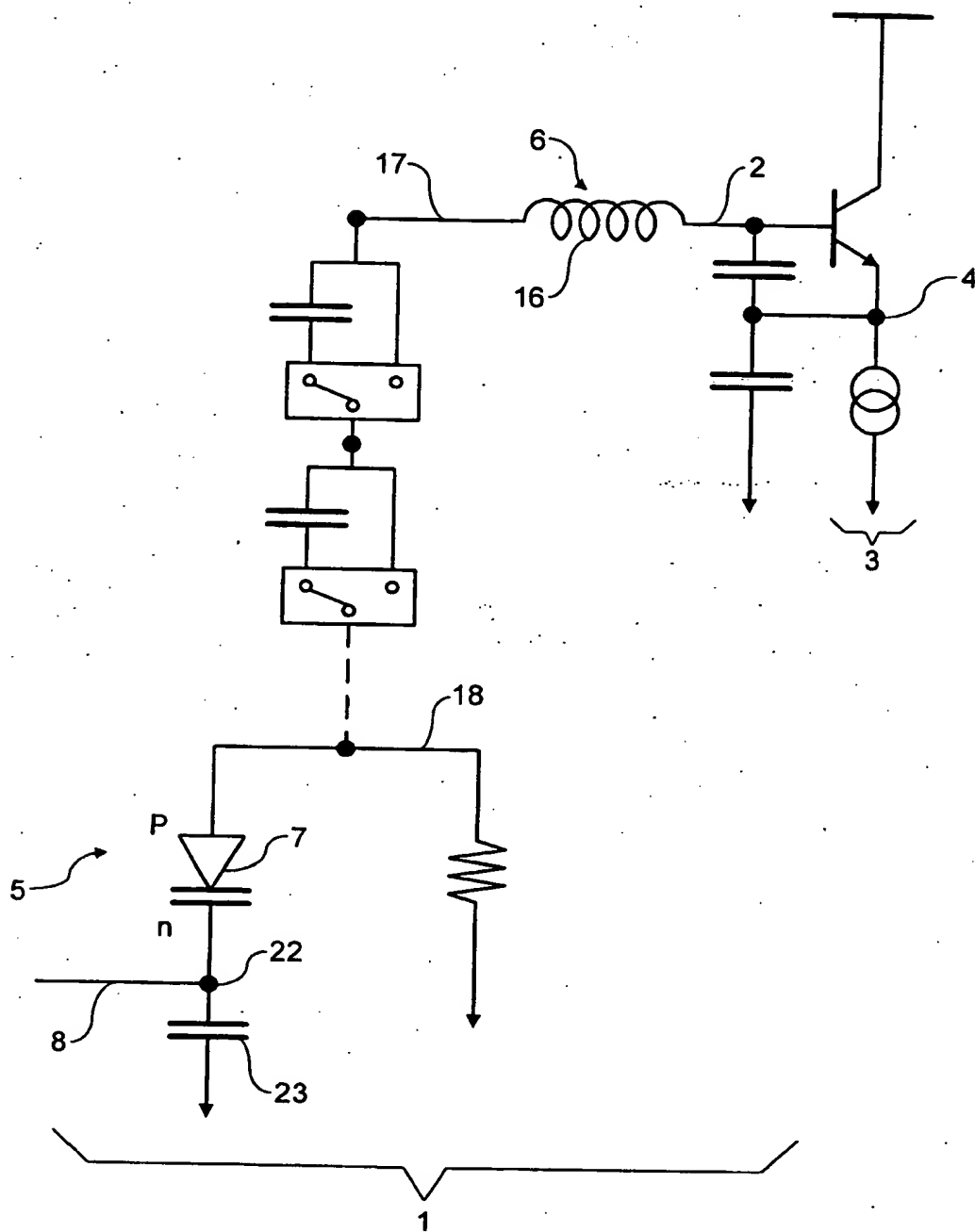


FIG. 5